



Approved For Release 2001/08/28 : CIA-RDP78-01617A000600130020-6

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
GENERAL STAFF, UNITED STATES ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SD- 11282-6
TOP SECRET CONTROL
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, GSUSA

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: IM-202: Review of CIA Estimate ORE 60-48: Threats
to the Security of the United States (Published
28 September 1948) Revised Draft.

1. Reference is made to CIA Memorandum, subject as above,
dated 10 August 1949.

2. The Intelligence Division, GSUSA substantially dissents
from those parts of the Memorandum which, in referring to ORE
60-48, imply that the U.S.S.R. is unlikely within the next decade
to resort to war, unless it believed itself to be in imminent
danger of attack by the Western Powers. In view of the highly
complex and explosive situations, currently existing in Germany,
the Balkans and the Far East, and the uncertainty that Soviet
Communist leaders can obtain their essential intermediate
objectives within the next ten years without resort to arms,
the Intelligence Division believes it is extremely unwise to
conclude without qualification that the U.S.S.R. is unlikely
to resort to war to gain its ends for a period as long as ten
years.

3. The Intelligence Division further disagrees with the
positive statement in paragraph 5 that the danger of war will
be less during the next year or two than at any time in recent
years. Although a number of recent developments are cited as
evidence of reduced tension and lessened likelihood of a Soviet
political decision to resort to war, an equally impressive list
of indications in the contrary direction could be drawn up.

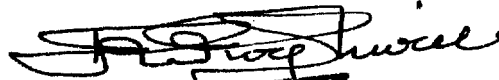
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The fact remains that the military balance of power has not improved in favor of the West in the past year or two; if anything, it has shifted in favor of the U.S.S.R. because of Communist victories in China and the continuing rearmament and streamlining of the Soviet Armed Forces. Short-range actions and attitudes of the U.S.S.R. in the international field, however peaceful or conciliatory in appearance, are tactical moves and may have little or no bearing on Soviet military intentions.

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S. LEROY IRWIN
Major General, GSC
Director of Intelligence

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